This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended)   A method for processing an electronic request to purchase goods or services, the method comprising:

providing to a shopper, via a communications network, an electronic purchase order having an opportunity to select a notification option and provide electronic purchasing information, wherein the notification option, if selected, indicates that the shopper desires to be contacted if a triggering event that affects the performance of delivery occurs;

receiving from the shopper, via the communications network, the electronic purchasing information that contains an electronic request to purchase goods or services and, if the notification option was selected, optionally supplied notification information, the notification information representative of at least one communication pathway for communicating with the shopper;

creating a shopper profile associated with the shopper, the shopper profile containing the electronic request and the optionally supplied notification information;

providing the shopper with delivery information;

recognizing the occurrence of [a] the triggering event that affects the performance of the delivery;

accessing the notification information in the shopper profile;

if the shopper has selected the notification option and supplied the notification information, notifying the shopper that the triggering event has occurred via the at least one communication pathway; and

notifying the shopper of a changed delivery date.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein receiving notification information further comprises receiving one of an email address, a telephone number and a pager number.

4. (Currently amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein receiving notification information _further_ comprises receiving presence information.

5. (Currently amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the notification information _further_ comprises a plurality of communication pathways, each pathway having a preferred rank.

6. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the communications network is the Internet.

7. (Currently amended)   A computer having instructions thereon for processing an electronic request to purchase goods or services, the instructions performing the steps comprising:

providing to a shopper, via a communications network, an electronic purchase order having an opportunity to select a notification option and provide electronic purchasing information, wherein the notification option, if selected, indicates that the shopper desires to be contacted if a triggering event that affects the performance of delivery occurs;

receiving from the shopper, via the communications network, the electronic purchasing information that contains an electronic request to purchase goods or services and, if the notification option was selected, optionally supplied notification information, the notification information representative of at least one communication pathway for communicating with the shopper;

creating a shopper profile associated with the shopper, the shopper profile containing the electronic request and the optionally supplied notification information if the notification option was selected;

providing the shopper with delivery information;

recognizing the occurrence of [a] the triggering event that affects the performance of the delivery;

accessing the notification information in the shopper profile;

if the shopper has selected the notification option and supplied the notification information, notifying the shopper that the triggering event has occurred via the at least one communication pathway; and

notifying the shopper of a changed delivery date.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended)   The computer of claim 7, wherein receiving notification information <u>further</u> comprises receiving one of an email address, a telephone number and a pager number.

10. (Currently amended)   The computer of claim 7, wherein receiving notification information <u>further</u> comprises receiving presence information.

11. (Currently amended)   The computer of claim 7, wherein the notification information <u>further</u> comprises a plurality of communication pathways, each pathway having a preferred rank.

12. (Currently amended)   A server computer for processing an electronic request to purchase goods or services from a shopper, the server comprising:

a communications interface connected to a communications network ~~for~~, <u>said communications interface</u> establishing a communications link between the server and a host client computer;

a processing engine in communication with the communications interface, wherein the processing engine has a microprocessor ~~for executing~~, <u>said microprocessor executing</u> computer-readable instructions <u>stored on a tangible medium, wherein said execution of the instructions causes the processing engine to</u>

~~for providing~~ <u>provide</u> to the shopper a purchase order having an opportunity to select a notification option, <u>wherein the notification option, if selected, indicates that the shopper desires to be contacted if a triggering event that affects the performance of delivery occurs,</u> ~~receiving~~ <u>receive</u> purchasing information from the shopper via the host client computer and the communications network, the purchasing information containing an electronic request to purchase goods or services, and, <u>if the notification option was selected,</u>

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optionally supplied notification information representative of at least one communication pathway for communicating with the shopper;

for providing provide the shopper with delivery information;

for recognizing recognize the occurrence of [a] the triggering event that affects the performance of the delivery;

for notifying notify the shopper that the triggering event has occurred via the at least one communication pathway if the shopper has selected the notification option and supplied the notification information; and

for notifying notify the shopper of a changed delivery date; and

a data storage facility in communication with the processing engine for storing that stores data representing the notification information and a shopper profile associated with the shopper and containing the electronic request and the notification information associated with the shopper.

13-14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The server system of claim 12 further comprising:

a message routing agent adapted to receive notification information.